

# HOLE IN NET DISPUTE!

BY 'NOVA'

Wycombe Wanderers 2, Woking 1

**DID** Len Worley's fierce shot eight minutes before half-time go into goal and out again through a gaping hole in the side netting? Or did the shot pass behind the goal as the referee maintained?

That was the question Wycombe Wanderers' fans were asking as they left Loakes Park on Wednesday evening after the Isthmian League game with Woking.

Spectators behind the goal were quite unanimous that the shot had gone into the net and out again. But despite protests from most of the Wycombe players the referee, after consulting his linesman, gave a goal-kick.

As it happened, the decision did not affect the result. Wycombe were already a goal up, Horseman having taken advantage of defenders' hesitation to slip the ball past goalkeeper Brian Farris, in the second minute. And John Balson added another just after the interval. If luck had been on Wycombe's side in the first 20 minutes, this decision would have mattered even less.

Tony Horseman placed a header into Farris's arms. Then he saw the goalkeeper save an-

other shot one-handed, more by luck than judgment. Minutes later the elusive Horseman headed a free-kick across the goal but Balson just failed to connect with the ball. With a little luck Wycombe could have been four goals up.

## OFFSIDE GOAL

Woking took a long time to work up steam but when they did, after 26 minutes, they got the ball into the net—only to be ruled offside. Then they were unlucky when right-winger Arnold walked the ball round Dennis Syrett and pushed the ball towards goal. But, as always, one of the two Wycombe full-backs was there to clear.

Wycombe started the second half in determined fashion but again the forwards ignored left-winger Paul Hodges. But after 51 minutes Alistair Lewis, who had an outstanding game, sent Horseman away and Balson, in a useful senior debut of the season, gathered the pass and scored.

With Peter Roystone well in control of the centre and Pullin and Lewis giving him excellent cover, Wycombe kept in command, but only six minutes before the end Lewis made his only error of the evening, heading past Syrett and into his own net.

Disappointing features from Wycombe's point of view were the scarcity of goals after having so much play, the poor display by Gale, and the failure to play to left-winger Hodges.

Wycombe—D. Syrett; A. Lewis, G. Pullin; D. Thomas, P. Roystone, C. Gale; L. Worley, J. Beck, J. Balson, T. Horseman, P. Hodges.

Woking—B. Farris; B. Fuller, B. S. Arnold; E. Pearce, A. French, J. Collingwood; B. Arnold, E. Tindall, B. Finn, J. Metherill, S. Woods.

Referee: Mr. B. J. Matthews (Canning Town).